

COASTAL ENGINEERING STRUCTURES IN MASSACHUSETTS

Presented By:



Vine
ASSOCIATES, INC.

MA Coastal Engineering Structures

General Information

- Approximately 192 miles of General Coastline in MA
- Approximately 1,519 miles of Tidal Shoreline in MA
- Many Public Shoreline Protection Structures Originally Constructed in Mid to Late 1800s & Early 1900s
- Original Structures – Constructed by Municipalities, State, Federal Government (USACE)

MA Coastal Engineering Structures

Purpose of Structures

- Provide Protection
Homes, Buildings, Roadways, Utilities
- Provide Commercial & General
Public Access

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Common Structure Types

- » Seawalls
- » Revetments
- » Breakwaters, Jetties & Groins
- » Piers & Wharfs
- » Bulkheads
- » Stairways, Access Ramps, Boat Ramps
- » Boardwalks
- » Tide Gates

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**Concrete Seawall
Lynn Shore Reservation
Lynn, MA**

SEAWALLS



**Granite Block Seawall
Blyman Canal
Gloucester, MA**

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Point Allerton - Hull, MA



**SEAWALL &
REVETMENT**

**STONE
REVETMENT**

Fourth Cliff - Scituate, MA



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***Federal Breakwater
Plymouth Harbor
Plymouth, MA***



***East & West Federal Jetties
Green Harbor Marshfield, MA***

BREAKWATERS, JETTIES & GROINS



***Mortared Stone Groin
"The Five Sisters"
Broad Sound Winthrop, MA***

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***Timber Pier - George's Island
Boston Harbor Islands***

PIERS & WHARFS



***Timber Wharf - Lynn Heritage State Park
Lynn, MA***

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BULKHEADS

***Timber Bulkhead - Green Harbor Entrance Channel
Marshfield, MA***

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***Timber Boardwalk & Stone Revetment
Lynn Heritage State Park
Lynn, MA***



Boardwalks

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Self Regulating Tide Gate (SRT)
Town Brook Flood Control
Revere, MA



Stop Log Structure
Black's Creek Flood Control
Quincy, MA

Flood Control Structures

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Typical Causes of Damage

- Storm and Wave Impacts
- Erosion
- Ice Damage
- Natural Aging Process

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Common Types of Damage

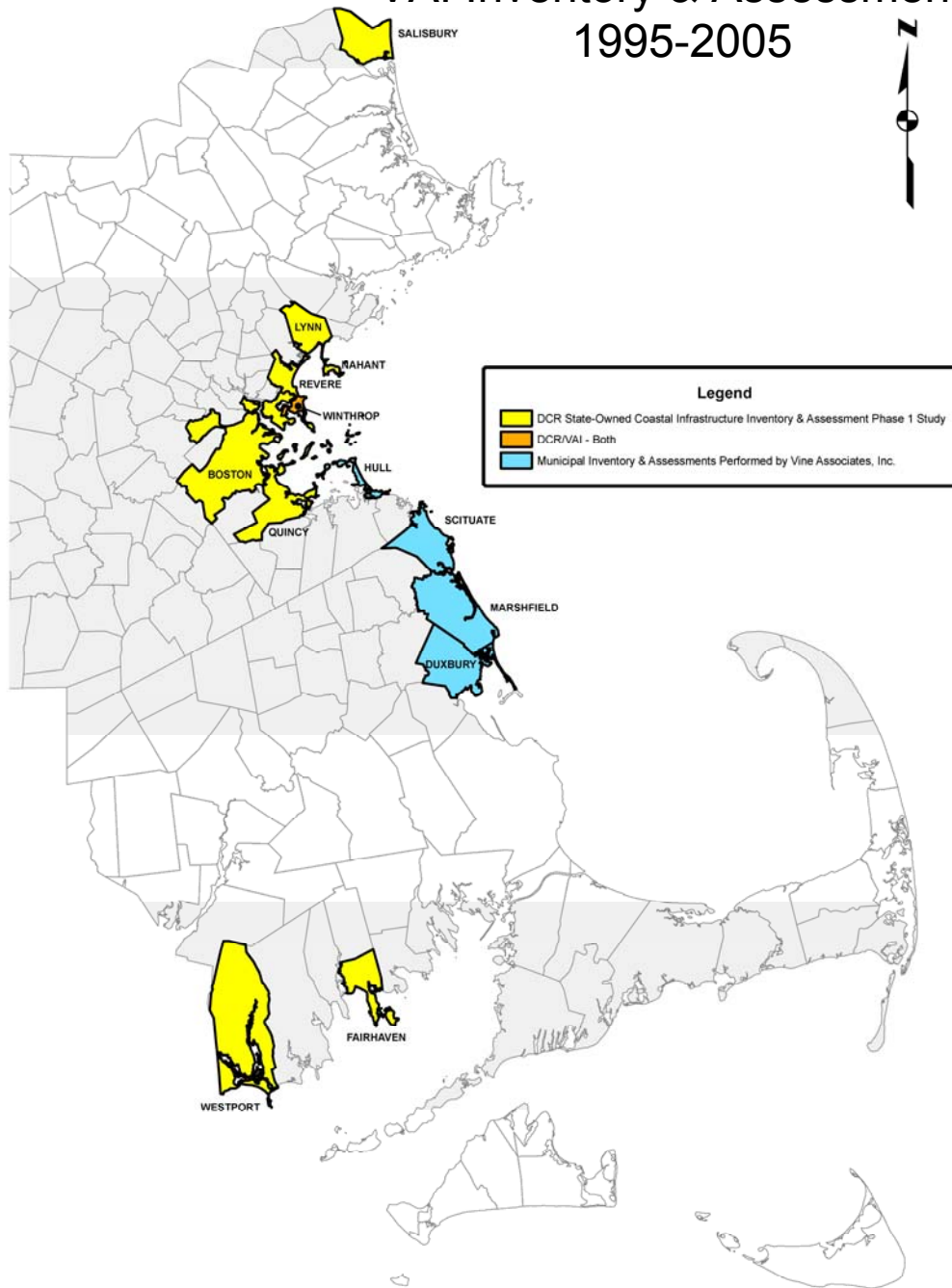
- Cracking & Spalling
- Raveling
- Weathering, Checking, Splitting
- Undermining & Scour
 - Sinkholes
 - Settlement
- Section Loss
- Failure

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INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

- Identifies ownership, location and baseline conditions
- Establishes history of structure(s)
- Provides a rational approach for evaluating and prioritizing sites to assist in developing a maintenance program and budgeting schedule
- Establishes baseline conditions for FEMA/MEMA storm damage funding assistance

VAI Inventory & Assessments 1995-2005



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Priority Index Rating System

5-Letter System using A thru D and F






A – “Excellent Condition”



F – “Critical Condition”

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Priority Index Rating System

Rating		Physical Condition	Definition Based Upon Perceived Immediacy of Action and Potential to Cause Damage if Not Corrected	Course of Action Required
A		Excellent	New Condition	None
B		Good	Structure observed to exhibit very minor problems, superficial in nature.	None
C		Fair	Structure is sound but may exhibit minor deterioration, section loss, cracking, spalling, undermining, and/or scour.	Minor/Routine
D		Poor	Structure exhibits advanced levels of deterioration, section loss, cracking, spalling, undermining, and/or scour. Structure should be monitored until repairs/reconstruction can be initiated.	Significant
F		Critical	Structure exhibits critical levels of deterioration, section loss, cracking, spalling, undermining, and/or scour. Stability is severely compromised, rate of deterioration is increasing, and structure does not provide required level of protection or function. Conditions of structure may warrant emergency stabilization as failure may result in potential loss of property and/or life.	Immediate

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**PRIORITY
INDEX
RATING**

A



Savin Hill Beach Seawall - Boston, MA

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**PRIORITY
INDEX
RATING**

B



***Stone Revetment – Pleasure Bay Causeway
Boston, MA***

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**PRIORITY
INDEX
RATING**

C



***Granite Block Seawall with Concrete Overlay
Nahant Causeway
Nahant, MA***



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**PRIORITY
INDEX
RATING**

D



***Granite Block Seawall – Great Brewster Island
Boston Harbor Islands***

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**Concrete Seawall – Cadish Avenue
Hull, MA**

**PRIORITY
INDEX
RATING**

F



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GENERAL PROCEDURE

1. Identify Publicly-Owned Structures
2. Obtain Existing Available Record Information
3. Establish Structure Identification System
4. Perform Visual Inspection
5. Evaluate Existing Conditions
6. Assign Priority Index Rating
7. Identify Improvements/Cost Estimate
8. Establish Maintenance Program

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INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT REPORT FORM

5 Key Components:

1. Identification/Ownership
2. Location
3. Description
4. Investigative Findings
5. Improvements

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Inventory & Assessment Report Form

1. IDENTIFICATION

Information typically included:

- » **Location - Area or Town/City**
- » **Structure Identification Number**
- » **Structure Type**
- » **Priority Index Rating**
- » **Location and Conditions Plan**
- » **State Plane Coordinates (structure limits only)**
- » **Photographs**

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Inventory & Assessment Report Form

2. LOCATION

Information typically included:

- » **Geography & Site Characteristics**
- » **Identification of FEMA Flood Zone**
- » **Tidal Data (MHW, AHTL, etc.)**
- » **Maps**

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Inventory & Assessment Report Form

3. DESCRIPTION

Information typically included:

- » **Structure Type**
- » **Structure Dimensions**
- » **Record Plan/License Information**
- » **Typical Cross Section**
- » **Identification of Prior Repair History**

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Inventory & Assessment Report Form

4. INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

Information typically included:

- » Field Investigations – Limited to Visual Observation, General Field Measurements, Photographs**
- » Evaluation & Analysis of Conditions**
- » Assignment of Priority Index Rating**

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Inventory & Assessment Report Form

5. IMPROVEMENTS

for **A** and **B** Index Rating - N/A

for **C**, **D**, and **F** Index Rating

- » Level 1 – Short Term
- » Level 2 – Intermediate
- » Level 3 – Full Replacement

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Inventory & Assessment

**Massachusetts Geographic
Information Systems
MA GIS**



STATION	COORDINATES (FEET)
0+00	810235,2942481
3+16	810252,2942169
8+08	810363,2941855
11+50	810544,2941565
16+78	810824,2941181
21+28	811134,2941490
23+13	811287,2941387
26+52	811435,2941666
45+09	810587,2942915
48+42	810254,2942902

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SCALE: 1"=300'

JANUARY 2005

**LOCATION
MAP**

**GEORGE'S ISLAND
BOSTON HARBOR**

GEIS-LM



RATING INDEX	
A - EXCELLENT	——
B - GOOD	——
C - FAIR	——
D - POOR	——
F - CRITICAL	——

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MONTICUTY, MA 02033
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FAX: (508) 741-1091

CONDITIONS MAP

GEORGE'S ISLAND BOSTON HARBOR

GEIS-CM

SCALE: 1"=300'

JANUARY 2005

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BENEFITS OF INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

- **Assists in Establishing Long-Term Maintenance Program**
- **Provides Guidance for Establishing Capital Budget**
- **Establishes Baseline Conditions**

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MAJOR CHALLENGES & ISSUES

- **Establishing Ownership & Maintenance Responsibilities of Structures**
- **Availability of Funding**
- **Finding a Practical Balance Between Environmental Impacts and Function & Protection Provided by Structures**
- **Standard Approach**